

Arkansas

Nutrition and Physical Activity Program to Prevent Obesity and Other Chronic Diseases (Web site under development)

<p style="text-align: center;">The Epidemic</p> <p>61% of Arkansas adults are overweight or obese. (CDC BRFSS, 2002)</p> <p>22% of non-Hispanic white adults, 35% of non-Hispanic black adults, and 31% of Hispanic adults in Arkansas are obese. (CDC BRFSS, 2002).</p> <p>30% of Arkansas high school students are overweight or at risk for overweight. (CDC YRBSS, 2003)</p> <p>26% of low-income children between 2 and 5 years of age in Arkansas are overweight or at risk for overweight. (CDC PedNSS, 2002)</p> <p>The obesity rate for Arkansas adults rose by 80% between 1991 and 2002. (CDC BRFSS, 1991, 2002)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Program Priorities</p> <p>In 1999, the Arkansas Senate passed a resolution asking the Arkansas Department of Health to study the effects of obesity in adults and children and the cost of related health problems. The department created the Arkansas Obesity Task Force and the task force completed a report on the <i>State of Arkansas, The Impact of Obesity: Economic, Health, Prevention and Treatment</i> in 2000. This report led the Department to increase both staffing and resources dedicated obesity-related issues. Legislation passed in 2001 requires physical education training and at least 20 minutes of physical activity three times a week for children in kindergarten through grade nine. In 2003, legislation was passed to requiring BMI measurements on all children in public schools establishing a Child Health Advisory Committee to the state Boards of Education and Health.</p> <p>An expanded and diversified Obesity Task Force will develop the state's comprehensive obesity prevention plan. Existing chronic disease plans include coordinated overlapping objectives dealing with nutrition, physical activity, and obesity prevention, and these will be coordinated with the state plan.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Partners</p> <p>Arkansas Cancer Coalition Arkansas Chronic Disease Collaborative Arkansas Community Health Centers Arkansas Coordinated School Health Program Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism Arkansas Five A Day Coalition Arkansas Foundation for Medical Care Arkansas Human Development Corporation Arkansas Minority Health Commission Arkansas Wellness Coalition Ark. Dept. of Health chronic disease programs Arkansas Department of Health WIC program Governor's Council on Fitness University of Arkansas at Little Rock University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Upcoming Events and Products</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Identification and recruitment of additional external partners representing a broad cross-section of the state's population, and business and professional communities ➤ A burden of obesity report ➤ An evaluation plan <p style="text-align: center;">Project Period: 2004-2008 Year First Funded: 2004 Funding Stage: Capacity Building Contact Person: Becky Adams, MPH, RD, CDE Arkansas Living Healthy Unit Leader Arkansas State Department of Health Telephone: 501-661-2334 Fax: 501-661-2055 E-mail: baadams@healthyarkansas.com</p>



Last update, August 10, 2004
www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/dnpa

